

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 6-8 are pending in the present application. The Examiner rejected the pending independent claims in a final Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,434,626) in view of Hayashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,237,417) and Akiyama (Japanese Pat. Pub. No. 401175021 A). Applicant herewith submits a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and this Amendment as the requisite submission. With entry of this amendment, Applicant amends claims 1, 7 and 8. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Amendments to Claims 1, 7 and 8

Applicant has amended claim 8 to be directed to a computer-readable medium as the Examiner suggested. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection under § 101.

Applicant has amended each of the independent claims – claims 1, 7 and 8 – to recite the display of only one cursor. Support for this amendment is found throughout the specification and drawings including, without limitation, Fig. 2.

Applicant has amended claim 7 to correct a minor informality relating to the word “numerically.”

Rejection of Claims 1, 3 and 6-8

The Examiner rejected claims 1, and 3-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi '626 in view of Hayashi '417 and Akiyama. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention relates to the efficient movement of a cursor in a matrix displayed on a screen. For example, in Fig. 2, the matrix comprises a row of groups (*e.g.*, GR1 and GR2) with each group having a column of one or more choices (*e.g.*, BOX 10 and BOX 11 for group GR1). When the cursor is moved from a first group to a second group (*e.g.*, group GR1 to group GR2), the

cursor is moved to the choice in the second group based on a value stored in a cursor buffer shared by the plurality of groups.

For example, as illustrated in Fig. 5A, in the movement m1, the cursor buffer value in the cursor buffer changes from “0” corresponding to BOX 10 to “1” corresponding to BOX 11. The cursor buffer value is shared by all the groups as illustrated in Fig. 5A. That is, when the cursor moves to the next group, at movement m2, it goes to the choice BOX 21 because the cursor buffer value is “1.” It does not go to the top item (BOX 20) or any other item based on what value a buffer could have stored for that group.

This feature is clearly reflected in the claims which recite storing “choice information corresponding to a value shared by all of the plurality of groups, the choice information indicating at which choice in a group the cursor should be displayed when the cursor is moved to the group from one of the choices in another group”

What is important to emphasize is that the choice information indicates “at which choice in a group the cursor should be displayed” as it moves from group to group. In contrast, Hiyashi '626 – which the Examiner has cited for this recitation – merely discloses that a cursor can select a parameter on a main-menu to activate a sub-menu of items relating to that parameter. It does not disclose at all what position the cursor should be placed as it moves to the sub-menu.

This is clear from Figs. 5 and 6A of Hiyashi '626 and the discussion at Col. 9. Fig. 5 of Hiyashi '626 discloses a main menu listing a number of parameters and a cursor 36b0. The user can move a cursor to select one of the parameters, such as the sub-picture screen parameter 36b1 as illustrated. When that parameter is selected, Hiyashi '626 then displays a sub-menu of items for the selected parameter as illustrated in Fig. 6a. (*See also* Col. 9, lines 44-47.) Hiyashi '626, however, is silent as to what position the cursor is to be displayed in the sub-menu. It shows a displayed cursor, but it does not disclose how the cursor should be positioned as it moves from the main menu to the sub-menu, unlike the claimed invention. Hiyashi '417 and Akiyama are similarly deficient.

Furthermore, in the present invention, when a choice corresponding to the value in the cursor buffer does not exist in the second group, the cursor is moved to a choice corresponding to a

value closest to the value in the cursor buffer. For example, in Fig. 5B, the value in the cursor buffer is "3" at BOX 33 after movement m11. When the cursor is instructed to move to the next group (BOX 2n), the cursor moves to BOX 22 which has a value "2" that is numerically closest to "3" as indicated by movement m12.

This feature is also clearly reflected in the claims which recite "wherein, if the choice corresponding to the choice information does not exist in the second group, the cursor moving device moves the cursor to a choice in said second group corresponding to a value numerically closest to the value of the choice information."

The Examiner concedes that Hiyashi '626 and Hiyashi '417 do not disclose this recitation. Akiyama does not make up for their deficiencies. Akiyama discloses a plurality of cursors 2 and 3 displayed on a screen for selecting menus. A user can activate each cursor by pressing a button 5 on the mouse 4. In this manner, the user can select the nearest cursor to a desired menu, thereby decreasing the amount of mouse movement for selecting the desired menu.

Applicant respectfully submits that Akiyama is not relevant. In the claimed invention, only one cursor is displayed on a screen and moves among choices in different groups based a cursor buffer value shared by the plurality of groups. In contrast, Akiyama teaches that different cursors can be used for different menus. Thus, Akiyama does *not* teach that "a cursor moving device moves *the cursor* to a choice corresponding to a value numerically closest to the value of the choice information" as the Examiner contends. (See Office Action, at page 6 (emphasis added).)

Moreover, in the present invention, the choice to which *the* cursor is moved is determined by a value stored in a cursor buffer shared by the plurality of groups. In Akiyama, there is no such determination, because Akiyama teaches that a different cursor can be used to select a choice in a different menu.

Finally, there would be no reason to employ the multiple cursors of Akiyama with Hiyashi '626 as the Examiner has done. Hiyashi '626 displays one menu at a time, *e.g.*, the main menu or a sub-menu, as discussed above. In this one-menu display arrangement, there would be no reason to have more than one cursor on the screen.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 7 and 8 and dependent claims 3 and 6 are patentable over Hayashi '626, Hayashi '417 and Akiyama.

Rejection of Claim 2

Claim 2 was rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Hayashi '626, Hayashi '417, Akiyama and Robertson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,598,183). The rejection is respectfully traversed. With respect to claim 2, Applicant respectfully submits that Robertson does not make up for the deficiencies of Hayashi '626, Hayashi '417 and Akiyama given that it was merely cited for storing information relating to the direction and distance of the movement of a cursor.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

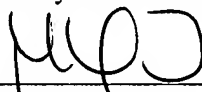
If, for any reason, the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 892-5630 to discuss any steps necessary to place the application in condition for allowance.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No. 393032041800.

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Respectfully submitted,

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